

FAIRFAX COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER INFORMATION

Source: Fairfax County Animal Shelter

Categories	2015
Total Number of Dog Intakes at the Shelter	2,557
Total Number of Dog Adoptions	1,263
Total Number of Dogs Returned to Shelter After Adoption	231
Total Number of Dogs Rehomed After Being Returned to Shelter	197
Total Number of Dog Bites at the Shelter	41*
Total Number of Dog to Dog Bites	NT
Total Number of Dog Bites within Fairfax County	1,261
Number of Dogs Transferred to Rescue Groups and/or Shelters	71
Total Number of Dog Bites that Occurred in Adoptive Homes	NT

Source: Fairfax County Animal Shelter, NT = indicates this category was not tracked by the Fairfax County Animal Shelter

** Obtained from Fairfax County Police Department I/LEADS database.*

Important Points of Information

- According to Fairfax County Animal Shelter personnel, a database transition occurred in July 2014. This significantly affected the data pertaining to intake. Only the main or primary category of “intake” was able to be transferred. Specifically the main category of “intake” addressed return versus stray versus owner surrender. Subtype reasons for return were not able to be transferred.
- The Fairfax County Animal Shelter adheres to an established policy and standard operation procedures (SOP) mandating the disclosure of all known information pertaining to every animal during the adoption process.

- “**Dangerous Dog**” is a legal term defined in the State Code of Virginia and should be used in that context. The Fairfax County Animal Shelter’s policy requires the adherence of all legal requirements outlined in the State Code of Virginia, § 3.2–6540. **Control of dangerous dogs; penalties**. The entire code can be found at this website link:
<http://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title3.2/chapter65/section3.2-6540/>.
- According to Fairfax County Animal Shelter personnel, when the shelter intakes a dog and the surrender or return reason is “**bite**” that encompasses a large range of actions from a minor abrasion to a severe bite.
- The staff and volunteers that work at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter receive on-going training in various formats including on-the-job training with assigned mentors, workshops conducted by licensed dog trainers, and workshops conducted by shelter staff. The training also covers the different classifications of dogs.